

## The Times' Daily Short Story.

## IN CONVICT'S DRESS

(Copyright, 1903, by C. B. Lewis.)

It was a dark, rainy evening in November, and I sat in my room in East Norwich reading a book when I suddenly fancied that there was a man under the bed in the alcove. It was only a fancy and one I could not account for, but I glanced in that direction, and next minute my heart was in my mouth.

It was a massive, old fashioned bedstead, with a valance or curtain falling to the floor around the front and the foot. Just peeping out from under this curtain was the toe of a shoe—a coarse, heavy shoe with hobnails in the sole. It was not the shoe worn by mechanics or day laborers, but I spotted it in an instant as a prison shoe.

I hadn't the slightest doubt that there was an escaped convict under the bed. It was sixteen miles to Penfield, and I had heard nothing of an escape, but the man under the bed was no doubt in prison uniform and from the institution named.

I had pretty good nerve in those days, and yet as I sat there trying to solve the problem I found my mouth as dry as cotton and my whole body trembling. You will perhaps say that I should have got up and walked out of the room and downstairs. To be honest with you, my knees were so weak that I feared they would not serve me, and I also feared that the convict would suspect my design and run out and attack me.

While I admit that I was unnerved, I still had no thought of running away. By and by, as I continued to grope for a solution, I grew cooler, and presently I did the best thing under the circumstances. Doing my best to steady my voice and speaking as if to one beside me, I said:

"You might as well come out from under the bed, my man. I have known of your presence there for this half hour, and you must be tired by this time."

The toe suddenly disappeared. "I think you had better come out," I continued. "You are here on an errand, and the sooner you accomplish it the sooner you can go. The men from Penfield will be on your heels before daylight."

Then the man suddenly rolled into view and sprang to his feet with a muttered curse. He was in convict's uniform, but he was not an evil looking man. On the contrary, he looked to be more of a sufferer than a criminal. There was more pride in his face than might have been looked for, and he had my sympathy at once.

"Well?" I queried as he stood staring at me.

"I shall never go back to prison—never!" he exclaimed as he looked around the room. "I'll die right here."

## ADVENT SERMON IN ROME.

Delivered in Presence of Pope Pius by Apostolic Preacher.

Rome, Dec. 8.—The congregation of the propaganda should have met to discuss important business, including American affairs, but the cardinals all went to the advent sermon at the Vatican, and the meeting of the propaganda was postponed.

The pope was present at the advent sermon, which was delivered in the throne hall by the apostolic preacher, Father Paolo Della Pieve, a Capuchin. The function was most interesting and picturesque.

A pulpit was erected under the canopy of the throne in front of a long line of seats for the cardinals. Behind them were seats for the other high dignitaries of the church. In a corner of the hall on the right of the pulpit was a structure resembling a private confessional, surrounded by a grating. When all present were seated, a figure, clad in white, appeared behind the grating, and the audience rose, the cardinals saluting by taking off their zucchetto.

Then the sermon began and was ended with a prayer for the pope, who never clearly showed himself. When the white kneeling figure arose and was about to leave, the congregation rose as before and again saluted. The preacher then went into an adjoining room and kissed the hand of the pope.

**New Warship Beats Record.**  
Glasgow, Scotland, Dec. 8.—Speed trials of the Libertad, which, with her sister ship, the Constitution, has been sold to Great Britain by the Chilean government, have resulted in an average of 20.3 knots per hour, thus showing that she is the fastest battleship afloat.

**Fourth Class Postmasters.**  
Washington, Dec. 8.—The following fourth class postmasters have been appointed in Pennsylvania: Brilliant, Elizabeth A. Ellicker; Millington, William W. Swank; Romerfield, C. S. Hendershot.

## PORTOBELLO JUBILANT

Isthmian City Celebrates Signing of Canal Treaty.

## ATLANTA'S EXPLORING TOUR

Cruiser Goes to Find Out From San Blas Indians if Colombia Can Send Troops Overland to Panama.

Colon, Dec. 8.—The news of the ratification at Panama of the canal treaty was carried to Portobello, twenty miles northeast of this port, and read on the plaza to the assembled inhabitants. The news was received with unanimous cheers for the junta and the republic. The municipality of Portobello declared two days of holiday making.

The United States cruiser Atlanta, which has just finished charting Portobello harbor and erecting a signal station on a hill on the north side of the harbor, has left Portobello for the coast of San Blas, fifty miles southeast of Portobello, intending to open communication with the San Blas Indians concerning the purpose of ascertaining the condition of the trails leading along the coast toward the Colombian frontier and whether they are available for the movement of Colombian troops on Panama.

**Primeval Indians.**  
The Indians occupy the coast between Nombre de Dios and Cape Tiburon and have maintained their isolation for generations. They have always resisted the incursions of white people into their country, not permitting them to spend a night on the mainland and forcing the few adventurous traders trafficking along the coast to sleep on a small island. It is reported that the Indians still keep up the old Carib customs. They are said to favor Panama and are ready to fight the Colombians. Colombia never succeeded in taxing or in any way controlling the San Blas Indians, but the Panamanians will endeavor to establish schools in the San Blas country.

The United States gunboat Bancroft will relieve the Atlanta at Portobello.

**Russia Recognizes Republic.**  
St. Petersburg, Dec. 8.—United States Ambassador McCormick has been officially notified of Russia's recognition of the republic of Panama. The signing of the decree was one of the first acts of the czar after his return here from Skierniewice, Russian Poland, on Saturday.

**Canal Treaty Coming.**  
Panama, Dec. 8.—At 8 a. m. the canal treaty was sent to Colon on a special car preparatory to shipping it to the United States.

**Denmark Will Follow Suit.**  
Copenhagen, Dec. 8.—The ministry has recommended that King Christian recognize the republic of Panama.

## COTTON WAGES OUT.

**Pay of Fifteen Thousand Men in Massachusetts Scaled Down.**  
Boston, Dec. 8.—The wages of 15,000 cotton mill operatives were reduced about 10 per cent in New Bedford, Fitchburg, Andover and Taunton, Mass., and Pawtucket, R. I. The total number of mill hands who have had their pay lowered during the present cotton crisis is now about 80,000.

Five thousand additional operatives in Berkshire county have been given notice that their pay will be cut next week. Most of the mills which have participated in the cut to date follow the course of the Fall River schedule, adopted Nov. 30. Of the operatives affected by the notice about 12,000 are employed in New Bedford.

**Health Will Not Resign.**  
Chicago, Dec. 8.—Perry S. Heath, secretary of the Republican national committee, who has arrived here from Salt Lake City, reiterated his statement that he had no intention of resigning from the committee because of the mention of his name in connection with the postal frauds. "I am still in office, have not resigned, see no reason why I should resign and have no intention of doing so," said Mr. Heath. "I may take action of some sort when I reach Washington, where I will go from Chicago."

**Princeton's Actors to Tour.**  
Princeton, N. J., Dec. 8.—Princeton's dramatic organization, which presented the "Mullah of Massana" last year, will appear in a new play this spring, and several out of town performances will be given. For the first time in its history the club will perform at the Hyperion theater, New Haven, on April 29, under the auspices of the Yale Dramatic association. The following night it will appear at the Carnegie gymnasium, New York, and later in the spring at Newark.

**To Compel Spaniards to Vote.**  
Madrid, Dec. 8.—A law compelling men to vote is among the legislation the new cabinet intends to introduce. The ministers propose to deal generally with electoral reform, and one of the clauses of the bill will make it compulsory for every elector to exercise the right of elective franchise.

**Sharon Steel Plant Reopens.**  
Sharon, Pa., Dec. 8.—The Sharon works of the American Steel Foundries company have resumed operations after being shut down some time on account of a scarcity of orders. The wage scale has not been adjusted, but the men will continue at work until some agreement is reached.

# WELCOME SOAP



## Always Reliable

More Borax is used in the manufacture of Welcome Soap in One Year than in all the other soaps sold in New England in Five Years.

## TREATY WITH CHINA.

Consul General Goodnow Brings New Commercial Contract.

Chicago, Dec. 9.—Bearing the official copy of the new commercial treaty between the United States and China, a treaty expected to add millions of dollars to the commerce of this country, John Goodnow, United States consul general at Shanghai, ranking first in the government service below Minister Conger, has arrived at Chicago. He is on his way to Washington, after which he expects to spend several weeks at his residence in Minneapolis. He has been in China six years.

The most important provisions of the new treaty are:

Abolition of local transportation taxes on American importations in consideration of an advance in the import duty of from 5 to 12 1/2 per cent.

New mining laws on the basis of those in the United States.

A national currency for China.

Minister Conger, Mr. Goodnow and J. P. Seaman were the United States commissioners who drafted the treaty. It was signed Oct. 8 and only needs ratification by the United States senate to become effective.

## TURKISH ATROCITIES.

American Missionary Tells of Awful Deeds in Monastir.

Boston, Dec. 8.—The American board of commissioners for foreign missions has received a report from Rev. E. B. Haskell, one of its missionaries, who has made a canvass of the vilayet of Monastir, devastated by Turkish soldiers. The report tells of villages burned, men, women and children killed, churches and monasteries demolished and emphasizes the need of relief for the stricken people.

The following is a summary of the canvass: Burned villages, 17; burned houses, 1,300; homeless people, 7,300; villages partly looted or injured, 3; armed men killed, 87 (10 after surrender); women killed, 9; children killed, 4; families injured, 1,303; women dishonored, 38; total persons injured, 7,563; 4 churches and a monastery torn down; 14 churches gutted and defiled; 6 schools burned or torn down; a school gutted; 2,206 persons have no food.

A letter received by the board relative to the present situation in Macedonia states that Dr. James E. Clarke is away from Samokov, Bulgaria, for two weeks in the region of Burgas, adding a Mrs. Allen and another English lady at their request in distributing English aid to the refugees.

## BOLD SALOON HOLDUP.

Officer Firing at Bandit Shoots an Innocent Bystander.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—A man entered a saloon here and with drawn revolver held up six men, whom he robbed of about \$20. None of the victims tried to molest him, but as the thief was emerging from the street door Policeman Skelly called upon him to surrender. He warned the policeman to keep away. Skelly advanced, and a shot was fired at him, but the bullet went wide.

The robber then tried to escape, but stumbled and fell and was about to fire again when Skelly shot him. The bullet passed through one of the fellow's legs and, striking upon the sidewalk, was deflected upward and entered the abdomen of George King, aged fifteen years, who was witnessing the encounter. Skelly then overpowered the man, who gave the name of Harry Howard. The boy may die of his wound.

## Nothing to Eat in Prison.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—The big restaurants in the wholesale and shopping districts of San Francisco have closed and will not reopen until the present strike of union cooks and waiters has been adjusted. When they are reopened, it will be on a nonunion basis. This action was decided upon at a meeting of the Restaurant Keepers' association, which has about seventy members. About 200 smaller nonunion restaurants will close out of sympathy with the movement.

## Russia's Reply to Japan Due.

Tokyo, Japan, Dec. 8.—The Russian reply to the Japanese proposals is expected momentarily, as it is announced here that Foreign Minister Lamsdorf has completed the answer and was in readiness to submit it to the czar.

## Japanese Diet Opens Dec. 10.

Tokyo, Dec. 8.—The formal opening of the Japanese diet, which was confidently expected to take place Dec. 8, has finally been fixed for Dec. 10.

**A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.**  
Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if Pam Ointment fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50c.

## IN BOSTON MARKETS.

Quotations on the Leading Products That Are in Demand.

Boston, Dec. 9.—Receipts of butter have fallen off, but prices show very little change, though very firm. Northern creamery, round lots, 24 1/2¢; western, 24 1/2¢; Vermont dairy, 21 1/2¢; renovated butter, 17 1/2¢.

The request for cheese continues light, but prices are steady for all choice lots. Round lots, Vermont twins, 17 1/2¢; New York twins, 12 1/2¢.

The high prices which have ruled for eggs have caused the demand to fall off, and the market is easier at a lower range of prices. Western fresh, 30 1/2¢; eastern, 30 1/2¢; nearby, 30 1/2¢; refrigerator, 25 1/2¢.

Beans are quiet but steady. Carload lots, pea, \$2.25; medium, \$2.25; 2.30; yellow eyes, \$3.15; red kidneys, \$3.50; California small white, \$2.50; foreign pea and medium, \$2.10; 2.20.

There is a quiet trade in apples, only choice red fruit being in demand and bringing full prices. Maine pippins, \$1.25; Harries, \$2.25; snows, \$2.50; Kings, \$2.50; Baldwins, \$1.75; Greenings, \$1.75; Hubbardstones and Hubbards, \$1.50; 2.25; pound and Tolman sweets, \$1.50; 2.25; northern spies, \$1.50; 2.25. The export of apples from all ports for the week were estimated at about 80,000 bbls.

Cranberries are steady at \$2.25 per bx and \$3.75 per bbl.

Domestic grapes sell at 15 1/2¢ per basket for Concord, 17 1/2¢ for Niagara, and 15¢ for Catawbas. Almeria grapes are selling at \$2.50 per bbl. California grapes are quoted at: Correllon, \$1.75; 2.25; Emperor, \$1.50; 2.25.

Table nuts are steady and are selling at: Walnuts, 14 1/2¢ per lb; chestnuts, 10 1/2¢; pecans, 9 1/2¢; almonds, 10¢; northern spies, \$1.50; 2.25. The export of apples from all ports for the week were estimated at about 80,000 bbls.

Potatoes are steady at unchanged prices. Arrostook hebrons, 6 1/2¢; Green mountain, 6 1/2¢; York state Green mountains, 6 1/2¢; sweets, Norfolk, cloch heads, 7 1/2¢; Jersey, double heads, \$2.50.

Celery is selling at: Pascal, \$3.50; 4 per long bx, Boston markets, \$5 per long bx; white, \$5¢; 1 per doz.

Onions are quoted at: Spanish, large cts, \$2.50; natives, 75¢; 85¢; per bu. bbls, \$1.75; 2.50.

Cucumbers sell at \$1.25 per bx.

Yellow turnips are selling at \$1 per bbl, white French, \$1.25 per bbl; white, 25¢; 35¢ per bu; beets, \$1 per bu; carrots, 60¢; 75¢ per bu; parsnips, \$1 per bu.

Marrow squashes are quoted at \$1.25 per bbl; Bay state, \$1.50 per bbl; turban, \$1.75 per bbl.

Cabbages sell at \$2 per bbl for native; Savoy, \$1.25; 1.50 per bbl; red, \$1 per bx.

Lettuce is quoted at 40¢; 50¢ per doz for loose; radishes, 15¢ per doz; mint, 75¢ per doz; cress, 50¢ per doz; beets, 40¢ per doz; oyster plant, \$1 per doz.

String beans sell at \$5 per bx for green.

Spinach is quoted at \$1 per bx; beet greens, 75¢ per bx; parsley, \$1.50 per bx; peppers, \$4 per bx; eggplant, \$3 per bx.

Brussels sprouts sell at 10¢; 12¢ per qt. Cauliflower sells at \$5 per pkg.

The hay market is weak with liberal receipts. Low grades are especially easy. Straw is in good demand with light offerings. Millfeed is steady and unchanged. Hay, No. 1, \$17; 18.50; low grades, \$12; 16; rye straw, \$21; 22.50; oat straw, \$9; 10.

Pork products are generally easy, with quotations revised. The holiday conditions lessened the marketing of hogs to some extent. The offerings have fallen moderately short of some period last year. Prices are well sustained, the average for prominent markets indicating about \$4.40 per 100 pounds.

Fresh beef is dull and neglected, with dealers finding it difficult to get full top quotations. The arrivals of fresh beef have been very heavy.

Muttons and lambs are steady in price, though the market is well supplied; veals are firm and unchanged. Western fall lambs, 9¢; 10¢; spring lambs, 9¢; 10¢; yearlings, 9¢; 10¢; muttons, 6¢; 7¢; veals, 9¢; 11¢.

Poultry is quiet in demand, with prices steady and unchanged. Turkeys, northern, 20¢; 22¢; western, dry, 17¢; 19¢; chickens, northern, 18¢; 20¢; western, large, 14¢; 15¢; fowls, northern, 15¢; 16¢; western, 14¢; 15¢; ducks, 16¢; 18¢; geese, 15¢; 17¢.

The wheat market has been feverish and excited. The remarkable upturn in December has been a natural outgrowth of the bullish cash situation finally making its impression on the big short interest in that option. Current gossip has it that the outstanding short account here in December is fully 2,000,000 bushels, but some conservative people place it at a smaller figure. Besides local traders, this shortage is distributed among northwest operators and Europe, representing bodies made some time ago. On two occasions, some No. 2 hard winter wheat, aggregating 50,000 bushels, has been sent around, presumably designed by parties here to break the market, but with little or no success. Consequently bears have been forced into the open market to protect themselves, with the results already noted. At these high prices, Europe has taken scant interest in cash wheat and the export department is devoid of interest. The interior movement, except for an expansion of southwest receipts lately, shows no material increase over last week or last year.

## Death of Aldred Sharpless.

Westchester, Pa., Dec. 8.—Aldred Sharpless, a well known writer on reform and agricultural topics and who gained a national reputation for his "John Ploughshare" letters, published many years ago, has died here, aged eighty-two years. He was a prominent mineralogist and had a rare collection of relics relating to the aborigines.

## Ayer's Hair Vigor

Sold for sixty years. You must know about it. It must have merit. Must be good. Ask any of your neighbors.

J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.



Rich Milk from Our Own Herd.

(Telephone 214-13.)

Everything Under Best Sanitary Conditions.

## SWOLLEN and TIRED FEET

Instantly Relieved, Quickly Cured

By the use of

## Paracamph

A Soothing, Cooling, Healing Remedy

Reduces the Swelling, Removes all Soreness, Stops the Burning, Draws out Fever and Inflammation, Prevents Bad Odor, Stimulates the Circulation, Keeps the Feet Warm and Comfortable.

**Policemen, Motormen, Conductors, Clerks,**

and all those who are on their feet a great deal should always keep a bottle of PARACAMP in their homes for use at night. Gives Instant Relief to Corns, Bunions and Frost Bites.

**We Guarantee every bottle to do**

What we claim for it. If it fails your money will be refunded. 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1.00 bottles. At All Good Druggists.

Sold by D. F. DAVIS, "The Druggist," 262 North Main St., Barre, Vt.